

JOHN H. MERRIFIELD IS DEAD.

End Came in the Brooks House Saturday Afternoon
After an Attack of Heart Disease.

John H. Merrifield, 59, clerk of Windham county for the past nine years and one of the best known and most highly respected men in Vermont, died in the Brooks House at 5:25 Saturday afternoon of angina pectoris. He came to Brattleboro Saturday morning apparently in his usual health and opened the county clerk's office at about 10 o'clock. Shortly after 11 he was stricken with what he supposed was an attack of acute indigestion. Medical aid was summoned immediately, and a little after noon Mr. Merrifield was able to walk to the hotel where he engaged a room and went to bed. He seemed to be getting along well until about 5 o'clock when a second attack came and from this he did not rally. His wife, who was summoned from her home in Williamsville after the first attack, was with him at the end.

The body was taken to Williamsville Sunday and funeral services took place Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 in the Methodist Episcopal church of that village. The church was crowded to the doors. Rev. J. C. Hazleton of Williamsville offered prayer and read the Methodist burial service, and the church choir sang Abide With Me, One Sweetly Solemn Thought and Rock of Ages. Rev. W. M. Newton, presiding elder of the Montpelier district, gave a brief yet extremely appropriate eulogy. He said no one could believe the statement that Vermont has failed to produce the type of men used to if he had known Mr. Merrifield. Mr. Newton then spoke of his unquestioned honesty, a quality for which Mr. Merrifield was known by everyone with whom he came in contact, saying that however much

unary labors of his many admirers gave strength to his candidacy that he received 227 votes in the state convention in Montpelier last June, losing on the second ballot to Lieutenant Governor Proctor.

Mr. Merrifield had served his town as lister, selectman and superintendent of schools. He was director of the Brattleboro & Whitehall railroad company and of the Union Mutual Insurance company of Montpelier, a trustee of the Windham County Savings Bank of Newfane, and a member of the county jail commissioners. He was also a steward of the Williamsville Methodist Episcopal church, president of the Epworth league connected with that organization and until recently had held the position of superintendent of the Sunday school. Since his appointment as county clerk he had held the office of justice of the peace and was one of the most efficient trial justices in the county. Mr. Merrifield also had acted as executor of many estates and guardian for a large number of minors.

Mr. Merrifield married Feb. 24, 1886, Miss Ella R. daughter of Asa and Polly M. Morse Stratton. To them was born one son who died at the age of four years. Besides his widow he is survived by two brothers: Webster Merrifield, president of the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks and Arthur M. Merrifield, a basket manufacturer in Williamsville.

There are few men whose characters possess so many of the virtues and so very few of the weaknesses of human nature as did that of the late Mr. Merrifield. His was a life devoted

day a man who was the soul of honor. No one could say ill of John H. Merrifield. Kindly, generous and of undiminished integrity, he was universally admired and respected. So prominently did his devotion to duty stand out that it gained for him many years ago the name of "Honest John," and the name has clung to him ever since, in spite of the protestations of the bearer of it whose sense of modesty led him to request his friends not to use it. In all his associations with men in whatever walk of life, his course was marked by uprightness of dealing. This characteristic was never more noticeable than in his career as public servant, when men are wont, if ever, to be swayed. Mr. Merrifield could never bear the mere appearance of anything oblique and nothing ever gained his approbation and nothing was in doubt. Thus in his public and private life, he stood out as a man among men, and the force of his example has been a power of good in his community and in the state of Vermont, where many times his worth has been rewarded by public trust. No more deserved tribute could be said of him than that the small world where his influence was felt is the better for his life.

A Loved and Respected Leader.

[Brattleboro News.]

In the passing of that esteemed Vermont man, John H. Merrifield, it is not inappropriate to pause a moment to take the measure of the man. Dryden said "that the best evidence of character was a man's whole life." Using the Dryden standard of measurement Mr. Merrifield passes with a percentage that leaves him in a class seldom out-ranked.

Many a Vermonters has crossed the stage and passed off with a more brilliant carriage, a more brilliant ensemble; but no heart ever beat truer or steadier with pulsations of homely honesty; no heart ever beat stronger with firm and unvarying desire to do just the right thing; and but few have succeeded as well—none better.

The meteoric flash of some men, together with their diamond like brilliancy has attracted attention in its passage, and these in their way have distanced Mr. Merrifield. But measured by the Dryden gauge, where the soul shines out in superlative brilliancy, where great throbbing hearts beat in unison with the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, he was not out-ranked.

For thirty-five years a public servant, a man of affairs, in positions high and low, he never undertook the execution of a trust confided to him without invoking help from on high, and endeavoring upon his purpose to do equal justice to all men. John H. Merrifield was an exceedingly modest man—sometimes almost diffident to the extent of hampering his public duties—never aggressive with his views to the discomfort of his fellow associates, yet with an ability and a knowledge of affairs which made him a loved and respected leader.

Where John H. Merrifield has gone, where human lives are weighed for what they really are, he will not be found wanting. May his mantle fall on a generation who need the stimulus of just such a well lived life!

OBJECTIONS TO AUTO LAW.

Brattleboro Man Thinks Certain Provisions Too Strict.

Brattleboro owners of automobiles are not entirely satisfied with the new automobile law, enacted at the session of the legislature which has just closed, although they admit that the bill which finally passed is a great improvement over some of the automobile bills which were introduced. Charles A. Harris, treasurer of the Brattleboro savings bank, is president of the Vermont Automobile club. Mr. Harris said that the most serious objection to the law as it now stands is the provision limiting the speed to ten miles an hour within a city, incorporated village or thickly settled part of a town. "I have always contended," said Mr. Harris, "and now that there should be no speed restriction should be required to run their cars in a careful manner at all times. A car may be run carelessly at five miles an hour and it may be run safely at twenty miles an hour. As people have become accustomed to automobiles their ideas of speed and carelessness have changed considerably. Ten miles an hour is one, and a team driven at that rate, although not under nearly as good control as an automobile would be, is not considered to be going at a dangerous speed. An automobile driver coming into this village from any direction does not know when he reaches the village limit and he is certain to violate the law without knowing it, for which he is liable to a fine and imprisonment. It is too bad for the legislature to take the attitude which it does toward something which is bound to result in much good to the state."

Hens Pay If They Lay.

What is more aggravating than the refusal of the biddy to lay when eggs are high?

The poultryman oftentimes sputters and scolds and proposes to live on poultry until every hen is eaten, forgetting that the biddy always does her duty when she is supplied with the necessary ingredients for producing eggs. She likes to lay and then talk about it after she has done the job, but she does not like to work when she is cold, chilly and poorly supplied with warm, stimulating food. If she could speak good English, she would tell you that she would like a warm, clean home to live in—a home with plenty of sunshine and southern exposure. Carroll S. Page of New York, Vt., says he has a Green Cut Bone and Meat at \$3.50 for a 200-pound barrel, freight prepaid to any station in New England or the Middle States, and the money may be sent at his risk in registered letter, postal money order, express money order or check.

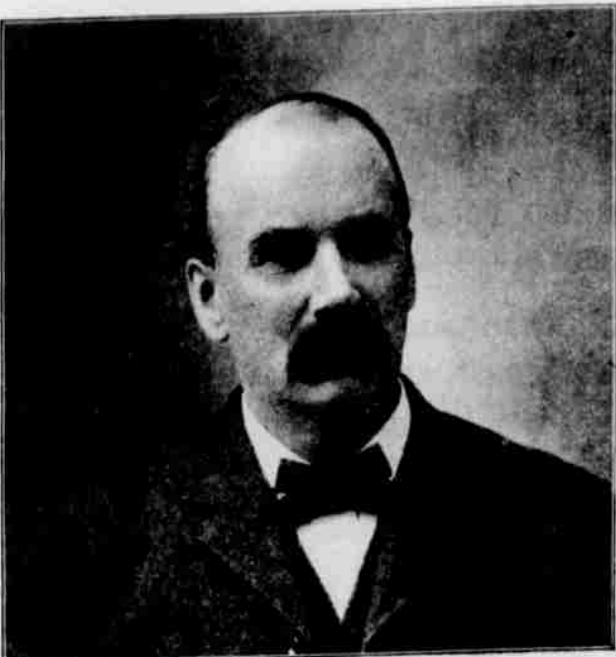
Granite Manufacturers' Complaint.

The Barre granite manufacturers' association held special meetings Friday and appointed committees to appear before the railroad commissioners on a complaint charging that the railroads at Montpelier and Barre do not furnish power enough to move the shipments and that they are after a load of granite are on sidings and have been for weeks. They claim the present force is insufficient, and that the engines are not of sufficient strength and speediness to do the work. As no complaint has been formally filed, no hearing could take place Friday. The board stated that the complaint must be made in writing, after which the commissioners would fix a date for a hearing.

The Soul of Honor.

[Brattleboro News.]

There died at Brattleboro on Saturday



JOHN H. MERRIFIELD.

one might disagree with him there would never be the slightest doubt about his sincerity of purpose. The speaker then referred to the great generosity of the dead man and the vast amount of good that he had done all ways without thought of reward. He spoke of his modesty, his kindly interest in all men and his charitable manner of speaking about everybody, closing with the statement that his was a life after which anyone might well pattern.

Mr. Newton's long acquaintance with Mr. Merrifield made it possible for him to speak with more than usual feeling, and toward the end of his remarks the speaker's emotion visibly affected him as it did everybody in the church. The body was placed at rest in the village cemetery, the bearers being Charles Stedman, George Dickinson, C. D. LaZelle, Porter Thayer, Charles Howe and Allie Freyenhagen. Among those who attended the service were Thomas C. Cheney of Morrisville, speaker of the house at the recent legislative session, Fred Hamilton of Salisbury, clerk of the house, Judge J. E. Weeks of Middlebury, Judge F. B. Pier of Rawsonville, Judge J. L. Martin, Judge E. L. Waterman, Judge E. W. Gibson, Judge A. F. Schwenk, Attorney General C. C. Fitts, Attorneys, F. D. E. Stowe, R. C. Bacon and A. P. Carpenter, O. L. French and S. A. Daniels, all of Brattleboro.

John Hastings Merrifield was born in Newfane, June 12, 1847, and was a son of the late John A. and Louisa (Williams) Merrifield. His early education was received in the public school of his native town and in the Springfield Wesleyan academy. During his youth he worked on the farm of his father and later conducted it. He began his business career a few years later by purchasing a general merchandise store in Williamsville, conducting it until 1881. The following year he went to Grand Forks, North Dakota, to act as western agent for the Vermont Loan & Trust company and held that position for four years. He then severed his connection with the company where he had lived ever since. Soon after his return he was made station agent for the Brattleboro & Whitehall railroad company at Williamsville and held that position until 1897 when he was appointed clerk of Windham county, an office which he held at the time of his death.

In 1874 and 1876 Mr. Merrifield acted as engrossing clerk of the Vermont legislature and in the following election, which came in 1878, he was chosen representative from the town of Newfane. He proved himself an able legislator and in 1880 was reelected. He was second assistant clerk of the house of representatives in 1882 and 1883, first assistant clerk in 1890 and clerk in 1892, serving in the last named capacity for two terms. In 1896 he was chosen senator from Windham county. In 1902 Mr. Merrifield was elected representative from Newfane for the third time and was chosen speaker of the house. His work in that capacity was so noteworthy that he received from his associates the sobriquet of "Honest John." Again in 1904 Mr. Merrifield went to Montpelier as representative from Newfane and for the second time was chosen speaker. His careful and painstaking work again won recognition throughout the state, and in the early part of the campaign of the past year his name was mentioned for the office of lieutenant governor. In his characteristic way Mr. Merrifield suppressed any organized movement in his behalf, but the vol-

ed to service for others and as an example of the golden rule it has few equals. A devout believer in the omnipotence of the Almighty Mr. Merrifield strove to fill the part of the good and faithful servant—to be true to himself, upright in all his dealings with his fellow-men and sincere in every purpose. For years a member of the Methodist church in his home town, Mr. Merrifield was not only its most liberal supporter and one of its most conscientious workers, but he carried his Christian belief into his every-day life and made it one of his business precepts. The charity that he did in his modest way, avoiding any chance of publicity and without thought of reward, was greater than even his most intimate friends knew about. Mr. Merrifield's willingness to help any cause which he considered worthy brought frequent demands upon him, but he never refused, fearing that any attempt to discriminate might cause him to slight some charity that needed his aid. As a public servant that needed his aid, yet positions of honor and responsibility came to him through his ability and conscientious adherence to duty. Through his long legislative experience he displayed a remarkable insight into all public questions and wielded the power that was given him carefully, unostentatiously and independently. To the lesser positions which he held he gave the same faithful service, and his modest, obliging and kind-hearted personality will be long remembered by all who possessed the treasure of his friendship.

All Vermont His Friend.

(St. Johnsbury Republican.)

Dear Honest John Merrifield has joined the great majority. His enemies were a minus quantity. All Vermont was his friend.

Deserving The Title.

[Montpelier Journal.]

The whole state will mourn the death of Hon. John H. Merrifield of Newfane. He held his friends and they banked on him. He was a gentleman of the old school and was well deserving of the title of "Honest John." He was not a politician of modern times. He never asked a man to vote for him in his life. Less than a week ago the writer was talking to Mr. Merrifield, and the latter, with tears in his eyes, said that he felt infinitely satisfied if half the things said of him in the late campaign in which he was a candidate for the republican nomination for the lieutenant-governorship were sincere. He said it was worth more to him than the office he sought.

Honest John All the Time.

(Morrisville News.)

"Honest John Merrifield" is dead. This intelligence will undoubtedly cause many a man in Vermont to express sincere sorrow. He died suddenly at Brattleboro last Saturday. As clerk of the house, representative and senator and twice speaker he made a host of friends by his genial and kindly ways, as well as his strict integrity. He was "Honest John" all the time and his service to his town, his county, and his state as a public servant has been of such a character that it will linger long in the memory of the people. Surely death has claimed a good man, an honest man and an upright man. Peace to his ashes.

The Soul of Honor.

[Brattleboro News.]

There died at Brattleboro on Saturday

Mail Orders

Don't let anything interfere with your immediate ordering of goods advertised. Delays are apt to prove disappointing. Write today.

J. E. MANN

Great Annual

January Clearance Sale

Immense quantities of desirable merchandise, are marked at cost, and less than cost, to clean up our stock and make this the great bargain event of the season. Two weeks of great value giving.

Sale Begins Saturday, January 5th, at Eight o'clock

Ladies' Furs

This sale closes our Fur business for this season.

These are clearance, profit-sharing prices on what we have on hand.

BROWN CONEY SCARFS, 72 in. long, good, full values, trimmed with 6 tails, former price, \$3.00.

Sale price, \$1.98

\$4.00 AND \$5.00 CONEY SCARFS, good full values. Sale price, \$2.98

BROOK MINK SCARFS, 72 in. long, trimmed with 6 tails, a fine wearing fur, and special value, former price, \$4.98.

Sale price, \$2.98

FOX SCARFS IN SABLE and Isabella, trimmed with two brush tails, former price, \$5.00. Sale price, \$3.98

OPOSSUM SCARFS, full neck with cluster of 6 tails, very special value, at \$3.98, but offered in special sale.

\$2.98

\$5.00 SCARFS AND TIES, in opossum, extra long and heavy.

Sale price, \$3.98

FOX SCARFS, in Sable and Isabella, trimmed with two brush tails, former price, \$7.50 to \$8.50.

Sale price, \$4.98

\$10.00 FOX SCARFS, in Sable and Isabella, all very desirable.

Sale price, \$7.98

OPOSSUM SCARFS, in Sable and Isabella, very long, and well blended, former price, \$7.98.

Sale price, \$7.98

\$12.00 AND \$13.00 RACCOON and Opossum Scarfs, full, rich values.

Sale price, \$9.89

BROWN MARTEN SCARF, very choice, former price, \$13.50.

Sale price, \$9.89

\$25.00 FOX STOLE, satin lined, very choice Alaskan fox in Isabella color, 55 inches long, trimmed with two large brush tails.

Sale price, \$19.50

ISABELLA FOX MUFF, full size, pillow style, former price, \$11.50.

Sale price, \$7.98

ISABELLA FOX MUFF, 4 stripes, very special value, former price, \$12.50.

Sale price, \$9.89

ISABELLA FOX MUFF, large, pillow style, 4 stripes, former price, \$15.00.

Sale price, \$12.50

CHILDREN'S SETS, at one third less regular prices.

Sale price, \$7.98

Table Linens

Manufacturers have for the last six months been warning us about a sharp advance in price of Table Damask, to take effect very soon. The disturbance in Russia has decreased the exportation of flax nearly one-half, hence an excuse for the advance. All our goods were bought at old prices, and are sacrificed in this sale simply to raise the money. An excellent opportunity for hotels, restaurants, boarding houses and conservative housekeepers to buy their year's supply.

6 PIECES PURE LINEN DAMASK, 72 inches wide, in very best patterns, that sell regularly for 65c to 75c, now to close at

49c

(Try to match it.)

ONE LOT 72 IN DAMASK, have sold at 59c and 98c, reduced to

75c

(Napkins to match.)

\$1.25 PURE LINEN DAMASK, 72 in. wide, all standard patterns, napkins to match, reduced to

98c

Napkins

ONE LOT 6-8 ALL LINEN NAPKINS, value, \$1.25, reduced to

98c

\$1.50 PURE LINEN NAPKINS, \$1.25

\$2.00 PURE LINEN NAPKINS, extra fine and heavy. Sale price, \$1.75

BETTER NAPKINS, \$3.98 to \$3.98

COATS AND SUITS

At One-third to One-half Less than Regular Prices

Ladies' Coats

COATS IN MIXTURES, of grey, brown, blue, and green, in loose and fitted styles, former prices \$5.00 to \$6.50, all put in this sale.

Price, \$2.98

\$7.00 AND \$8.00 COATS, in plain cloths, also in mixtures of grey, blue, brown, and green, in loose style, all sizes, 32 to 44.

Sale price, \$4.98

\$10.00 COATS, in plain Kerseys, also in all mixtures, made in loose and fitted styles, some made with satin lining, sizes, 32 to 42.

Sale price, \$6.98

\$12.50 AND \$15.00 COATS in Castor and mixtures of grey, brown and green, beautiful coats and some of the smartest styles of the season.

Sale price, \$8.98

\$17.50 COATS in mixtures of grey, and brown, also in castor, satin lined through yoke. Sale price, \$12.50

Ladies' Black Coats

BLACK COATS, 52 inches long, made in neat, desirable styles, former price, \$5.00 and \$6.00. Sale price, \$3.98

\$10.00 BLACK COATS, 52 inches long, lined in the waist, made of all wool kersey, were very special values at \$10.00, but offered in this sale at

\$6.98

\$12.50 AND \$13.50 COATS, full length, made of kersey and broadcloth, in loose and fitted styles, well trimmed and lined to waist with satin.

Sale price, \$8.98

\$17.50 AND \$19.50 COATS, in Kersey and broadcloth, in loose and fitted styles, 52 inches long, satin lined, and the best coats we have.

Sale price, \$12.50

SHORT FITTED COATS, for stout figures, made of fine quality material, entirely lined with Skinner's satin, and in several styles, former price, \$12.50 to \$15.00.

Sale price, \$4.98 to \$8.98

Misses' Coats

MISSES' COATS, in sizes 8 to 14 years.

\$5.00 and \$4.00 coats reduced to

\$2.98

\$6.98 and \$5.98 coats reduced to

\$3.98

\$10.00 and \$7.50 coats reduced to

\$4.98

Rain Coats

\$8.50 AND \$7.50 COATS, in grey and brown, several odd styles, all in one lot.

Sale price, \$4.98

\$12.50 AND \$10.00 RAIN COATS, in a good variety, nearly all sizes, greys, greens and browns.

Sale price, \$7.98

Odd Lace Curtains

1/2 to 1/3 original price

Only 1 or 2 pairs of a kind.

\$1.00 MUSLIN CURTAINS.

Sale price, 60c

\$1.00 LACE CURTAINS.

Sale price, 69c

\$1.50 LACE CURTAINS.

Sale price, 98c

\$2.00 LACE CURTAINS.

Sale price, \$1.48

\$3.00 LACE CURTAINS.

Sale price, \$1.98

\$4.00 LACE CURTAINS.

Sale price, \$2.98

Portieres, only one pair or one-half pair of a kind, all odd or slightly damaged, at 1/2 less than regular price.

Sale price, 17c

Writing Paper

Best linen paper, but put up in holly boxes, 25c. quality, reduced to

17c

Children's caps, bonnets, mittens, leggings, infants' blankets, ladies' knit shawls, tams, toques, all winter goods, and all left-overs from our holiday trade are included in this great markdown sale.

Sale price, 79c

Phone Orders

Call up 31-13 and your request or orders will receive personal and prompt attention.

Ladies' Waists

Our entire stock of waists goes in this clean-up sale.

LOT I.—White waists in mercerized materials. Flannel waists in blue and grey, also a lot of odd waists, former price, 98c. to \$2.98. Sale price, 69c

LOT II.—White embroidered waists, mahar waists, all colors; also many odd waists, former prices, \$1.48 to \$3.00. Sale price, 98c

LOT III.—Fine tailored waists in mercerized materials; mohair waists in white, blue and brown, also a few odd waists, former prices, \$2.00 to \$3.50. Sale price, \$1.48

SILK WAISTS.—We have taken all odd waists and marked at bargain prices which were formerly \$3.98 to \$7.00. Sale price, \$2.98 to \$4.98

AT \$2.25, are a few odd skirts which were \$3.00. Sale price, \$2.25

AT \$2.98, are skirts of all wool broad cloth, also a few mannish mixtures, which were \$4.00 and \$5.00. Sale price, \$2.98

AT \$3.98, a lot of grey skirts, also blue and black panama cloths, former price, \$5.00 to \$6.50. Sale price, \$3.98

AT \$4.98, a lot of skirts in black, blues, greys, also mannish mixtures, which were \$6.50 to \$7.98. Sale price, \$4.98

Children's Dresses

Our dresses are all new and very suitable for school wear but we have many.

CHILDREN'S DRESSES, sizes 2 to 14 years, all odd dresses, in plaid and plain cloths, former prices, 59c. to \$3.98. Sale price, 49c

\$1.25 TO \$1.50 DRESSES in plaid and plain cloths, sizes 2 to 14 years. Sale price, 98c

\$2.25 AND \$2.00 DRESSES, in all wool cloths, also in plaids and serge cloths, all sizes. Sale price, \$1.48

\$3.98 AND \$4.50 DRESSES, made in all wool cloths, all sizes 3 to 14 years, all go at one price, \$2.98